(a) whether Government is aware that Government of Kerala is finding it difficult to finance the cost of land acquisition for the Rail Over Bridges (ROBs) in the State due to prohibitive land value in the State;

(b) whether the State Government has requested Railways to share the land acquisition cost with the State Government on a 1:1 ratio; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Principal Secretary, Public Works Department, Kerala State Government has requested to consider possibility of sharing land acquisition cost with State Government at the ratio of 1:1 citing reasons that land is scarce and cost of acquisition is prohibitive in Kerala, in comparison to other States and State Government is finding it difficult to finance the cost of land acquisition for all the proposed works of Road over/under bridges. Due to heavy liability in hand with Railways (as 830 works already sanctioned on cost sharing basis in the country) with meagre allocation of funds from Central Road Fund for construction of Road over/under bridges, it has not been found feasible for Railways to share cost of land acquisition also at the ratio of 1:1 under extant rules. State Government has been apprised of the position.

**Green toilets in trains**

1801. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is pursuing plans of retrofitting rail coaches of important passenger trains with green toilets for creating a biological environment friendly ambience;

(b) if so, whether this project would be undertaken through indigenously developed techniques or foreign consultants/construction companies would be involved; and

(c) whether the technology recently developed by Research and Design Organization has undergone any field trials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Railways are in the process of developing environment friendly "green toilets" and conducting field trials before considering fitment/retrofitment in coaches as a regular measure. The acquiring of technology/design of such toilet system is not restricted to indigenous parties.

(c) The prototype environment friendly toilet system developed by Research, Design and Standards Organisation is presently undergoing field trials in Southern Railway.